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Quarterly Tribal Gaming Contributions to Arizona Declined 0.8 Percent

PHOENIX — Quarterly tribal contributions from Indian gaming revenue to the state of Arizona decreased 0.8 percent from the same period a year ago, the Arizona Department of Gaming said today.

Arizona tribes' combined contributions for the quarter ended March 31, 2008 was about \$24.4 million, compared to about \$24.6 million in the same quarter a year ago.

Under the Arizona Tribal-State Gaming Compact, tribes that own casinos contribute one to eight percent of their annual Class III net win to the state, cities, towns and counties. Net win (also called gross gaming revenue) is the difference between a casino's gaming wins and losses, before casino costs and expenses are deducted.

State and local governments use tribal contributions to fund education, trauma care, wildlife conservation, tourism and other programs for Arizona residents. Tribes send contributions to the state Arizona Benefits Fund every three months. Since the gaming Compact went into effect in 2003, Arizona tribes have contributed more than \$404 million to the state, cities, towns and counties.

Here is how the quarterly tribal contributions in the Arizona Benefits Fund were distributed:

TOTAL tribal contributions for the quarter ended March 31, 2008:	\$24,370,872.43
Instructional Improvement Fund/Education:	\$12,146,442.81
Trauma and Emergency Services Fund:	\$ 6,073,221.41
Arizona Department of Gaming operating costs:	\$ 2,193,378.52
Arizona Wildlife Conservation Fund:	\$ 1,735,206.12
State Tourism Fund:	\$ 1,735,206.12
Problem Gambling Education, Treatment and Prevention:	\$ 487,417.45

Class III gaming includes slot machines, jackpot poker, blackjack, keno and off-track pari-mutuel betting. The Arizona Department of Gaming, in partnership with Arizona's tribes, regulates Indian gaming. There are 15 tribes that operate 22 Class III casinos in the state.